DEC 26 2002 C.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

TECEIVE CONTROL

In re application of: RICCI et al.

Attorney Docket No.: LAM1P118/P0539

Application No.: 09/408,921

Examiner: BUEKER, Richard R.

Filed: September 30, 1999

Group: 1763

Title: PRETREATED GAS DISTRIBUTION PLATE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 11, 2002.

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AMENDMENT C

Box Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please consider the following amendments and remarks in response to the Office Action mailed on September 12, 2002. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the captioned application in view of the following remarks and amendments.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add claims 19-21 and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Four Times Amended) A gas distribution plate for use in a semiconductor fabrication apparatus including a semiconductor processing chamber, the gas distribution plate comprising:

a plurality of <u>drilled</u> holes for passing process gases to the semiconductor processing chamber; and